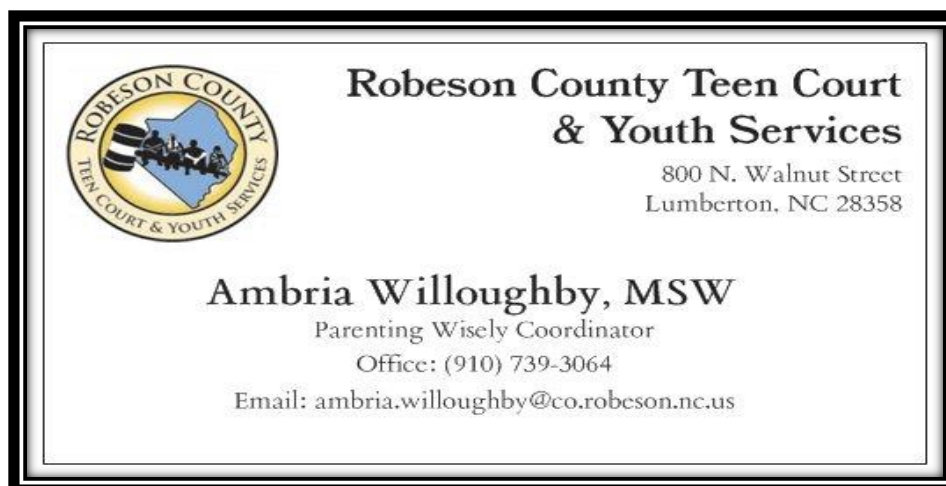


## Robeson County Teen Court & Youth Services



**Parenting Wisely (PW)** is an evidence based parent training program that include ten video vignettes focusing on a specific parent issue (i.e. homework, curfew) delivered in a variety of formats including CD-ROM, online and DVD. The program can be done in parent groups or individually depending on the choice of the parent. RCTCYS staff delivers the parenting program and have served over 300 families since its implementation began in Robeson County.

The Parenting Wisely program is one of four components within the RCTCYS service continuum. Priority will be given to youth involved in the other components as a part of the wrap around strategy provided to the target youth and parent /guardian. These will include youth referred from juvenile intake, juvenile court and law enforcement. One differing factor of this component is not only will the program serve diverted juveniles but will also provide parent skills training to parents of juveniles on court supervision who are Level I or II offenders.

RCTCYS will explore with juvenile services the opportunity to become a part of the post release supervision and transition plan for juveniles returning from YDCs. Parenting Wisely can be offered to parents and guardians of YDC (Level III) youth prior to the youth's return to the home. After a six month period the PW staff will meet with the parent and child to determine the progress that has been made in the following areas of family communication and respect of each party.

The format of Parenting Wisely used by RCTCYS is designed to work with parents of youth ages 10 – 16.

Our goals for Parenting Wisely: To provide a seamless continuum of evidence based services allowing parents or guardians of youth involved in the RCTCYS framework (teen court, life skills, mentoring).

To parents of court supervised youth provide an evidence based parent skills training model to increase parent-child effective communication.

To provide a venue for parents to come together and share with each other their struggles and challenges which builds cohesion among the parents strengthen their support systems and empowering positive changes in the way participants parent their children.